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2       1. A method for supplying communication and data services across a dispersed  
3 Internet protocol capable network selectively connecting devices that are electrically  
4 attached to the network, the method comprising:

5               the step of initiating a control path connection on a network layer between individual  
6 components attached to the dispersed network and at least one central arbitration server;

7               the step of receiving a service request;

8               the step of initiating a data path connection between the individual components  
9 designated by the service request; and

10               the step of initiating a service layer to supply the requested service.

11       2. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the step of receiving a service  
12 request further comprises the step of determining whether the requested service will require  
13 real-time responsiveness.

14  
15       3. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the step of initiating a control path  
16 connection further comprises:

17               the step of logging into the central arbitration server; and

18               the step of delivering information concerning available resources associated with the  
19 individual components.

20  
21       4. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the step of initiating a control path  
22 connection further comprises the step of communicating call control information, DTMF,  
23 application specific messages, and application specific call detail information to the at least  
24 one central arbitration server.

1       5. The method as recited in claim 4, wherein the step of initiating a data path  
2 connection further comprises the step of establishing a real time data path between devices  
3 to deliver data packets containing voice, facsimile, DTMF tones, silence/background noises,  
4 modem data, and video data.

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6       6. The method as recited in claim 4, further comprises the step of forwarding  
7 control path information to a termination device.

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9       7. The method as recited in claim 4, further comprising:  
10           the step of recording call detail records based in part on received call control  
11           messages and application specific messages; and  
12           the step of monitoring the call control messages and other data derived from the  
13           control path connection and the data path connection.

14       8. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the steps of initiating the data path  
15 and control path connections further comprise:

16           the step of optimizing the routing resources available for the connection, wherein the  
17 optimization is determined according to at least one of the following data packet  
18 prioritization systems: least cost, failure bypass, load balancing, and class of service; and  
19           the step of determining the necessary bandwidth of the connection to be allocated for  
20 the requested service.

9. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the step of initiating a connection further comprises:

the step of reviewing service tables to determine if a requested resource required by

the service request is available; and

if the requested resource is available, the step of locking both sides of connection in

preparation for supplying the requested service.

10. The method as recited in claim 9, wherein the steps of reviewing the service tables and locking both sides of connection is controlled via the arbitration server, such that the requested resource is locked by the arbitration server after verifying availability.

11. The method as recited in claim 9, wherein the step of locking both sides of connection in preparation for supplying the requested resource is locked by the individual components making the requests.

12. The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the step of initiating a data path connection further comprises:

the step of encapsulating data into data packets for transmission across the distributed network.

13. The method as recited in claim 12, wherein the step of encapsulating data further comprises the step of determining a type of data being encapsulated into packets, wherein the type of data is at least one of: voice, DTMF tones, facsimile, background noise, digital data, modem and silence.

1       14. The method as recited in claim 12, wherein the step of encapsulating data  
2 further comprises:

3           the step of supplying signaling information about the destination of the packet;  
4           the step of assigning a data type label to the packet;  
5           the step of attaching data payload to the packet;  
6           if the packet will be transmitted through a public network area, the step of encrypting  
7 the contents of the packet; and  
8           the step of varying a call detail record based in part upon the data type label.

1  
2 15. A communication and data services network predominately using a  
3 packetized transmission protocol, the communication and data network comprising:  
4  
5 means for requesting a communication data service;  
6  
7 means for initiating a network layer between attached components of the dispersed  
8 network, wherein the network layer initiates a control path for the attached  
9 components and a data path for select components designated in the requested  
10 communication data service; and  
11  
12 means for initiating a service layer to supply the requested communication data  
13 service.  
14

15 16. The network as recited in claim 15, wherein the means for requesting a  
16 communication data service comprises a user terminal, such as a telephone or personal  
17 computer.  
18

19 17. The network as recited in claim 15, wherein the means for initiating a  
20 network layer connection comprises:  
21  
22 at least one gatekeeper (CAS) electrically attached to the network; and  
23  
24 a plurality of entry gateways (CE), wherein each CE performs digital signal  
processing on received signals to generate encoded packets and is electrically attached to at  
least one CAS via the control path.

1  
2 18. The network as recited in claim 17, wherein the means for initiating a  
3 network layer connection comprises:  
4       a POTS interface at the user terminal; and  
5       a central office electrically attached to the POTS interface and one CE via a standard  
6 PSTN connection.  
7  
8 19. The network as recited in claim 17, wherein the means for initiating a  
9 network layer further comprises:  
10      a communication proxy server (C4P) electrically attached to the CAS via the control  
11      path; and  
12      a local digital switch (C4) being electrically attached to the C4P via the network, the  
13      C4 generating dial tone, digital access, and encoding data path information to the  
14      user terminal.  
15  
16 20. The network as recited in claim 15, wherein the packetized transmission  
17 protocol is an Internet Media Control Protocol (IMCP) running on the at least one CAS and  
18 the plurality of CEs, the IMCP pooling data into categorized packet types exchanged  
19 between servers along the available routing resources enabling multiple data path  
20 connections to share the same packet and determining the necessary bandwidth allocation  
21 for the requested communication data service.  
22  
23  
24

21. The network as recited in claim 15, wherein the means for initiating a network layer comprises the CAS reviewing service tables to determine if the requested resource is free and if the requested resource is free, allowing origination and termination devices making the resource request to lock both sides of the connection in preparation for supplying the requested resource.

22. The network as recited in claim 15, wherein the means for initiating a service layer connection comprises a gatelink application protocol interface, which enables applications resident on gatelink servers to analyze the encoded packets generated by the network layer.

23. The network as recited in claim 15, wherein the means for initiating a service layer connection directs the data path of the originating and terminating devices.

1  
2 24. A global private packetized communication system with a control path and a  
3 real time data path, the communication system comprising:

4 originating telephone means for transceiving a digitized audio signal;  
5 transmission means for transceiving, categorizing, compressing, and encapsulating  
6 digitized audio signals; and  
7 receiving telephone means for transceiving a digitized audio signal.

8 25. The communication system as recited in claim 24, wherein the originating  
9 telephone means comprises a digital telephonic device electrically connected to the  
10 transmission means, the digital telephonic device comprising a speaker for converting digital  
11 signals into audio signals and a microphone for converting audio signals into digital signals;  
12 and wherein the receiving telephone means comprises a second digital telephonic device  
13 electrically connected to the transmission means, the second telephonic device also  
14 comprising a speaker for converting digital signals into audio signals and a microphone for  
15 converting audio signals into digital signals.

1  
2 26. The communication system as recited in claim 24, wherein the transmission  
3 means for transceiving, categorizing, compressing, and encapsulating digitized voice signals  
4 comprises:

5 at least one central arbitration server to track resource utilization; and  
6 at least one communication engine electrically connected to the at least one central  
7 arbitration server via the control path and selectively interconnected with a receiving  
8 communication engine via the real time data path, the selectively interconnected  
9 communication engines being electrically attached to the originating and receiving  
10 telephone means.

11 27. The communication system as recited in claim 26, wherein the transmission  
12 means further comprises:

13 a proxy switch server electrically connected to the at least one central arbitration  
14 server via a control path and selectively connected to the receiving communication engine  
15 via real time data path, the proxy switch server consolidating data packets traveling to the  
16 same communication engine to improve the payload to header ratio; and

17 a local digital switch electrically connected to the proxy switch server and one of the  
18 originating telephone means and the receiving telephone means, the local switch generating  
19 dial tone and compressing received digital voice signal into encapsulated digitized voice  
20 data packets.